

(c) by when, the modernisation work would be completed for round the clock flying capabilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) to (c) It would not be in the interest of national security to disclose this information.

Relocation of Ordnance Depots from inhabited areas

+1262. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are having any scheme under which the Ordnance Depots would be shifted from the inhabited areas to other places;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): to (c) There is no scheme for shifting of any Ordnance Depot & Ammunition Depot located near populated areas to other areas. These Depots have been sited keeping in view strategic and tactical considerations and thus it would not be viable to shift them to a new location.

Enquiry regarding Santushti Complex

1263. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the report submitted by the Enquiry Officer who enquired into the unauthorised

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

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establishment and maintenance of the Santushti Complex and the utilisation of funds; and

(b) if so, the decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) The report submitted by the Enquiry Officer is under active consideration of the Government.

Completion of projects undertaken by DRDO

1264. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the last decade the Defence Research and Development Organisation has taken up 180 projects out of which only 99 projects have been completed successfully;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to complete the remaining projects immediately to avoid cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) The 180 projects were undertaken for the three Services at different points of time during the last decade and these projects were of different time durations. The remaining on-going projects are in various stages of execution.

(c) The projects are periodically subjected to multi-layer reviews to identify and solve the problems, which otherwise may lead to escalation in time and cost.